

**Department of Transportation  
Project No. 52-90  
Replacement of Bridge No. 06777  
Route 207 over Ayers Brook  
Town of Franklin  
Public Information Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 4, 2015, 7:00 p.m.  
Franklin Town Hall, Lower Level Meeting Room  
7 Meeting House Hill Road  
Franklin, Connecticut**

**Minutes**

**Present:**

Theodore H. Nezames – Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT)  
Kevin V. Blasi – CTDOT  
Sarwat A. Basha – CTDOT  
Jonathan W. Kang – CTDOT  
Richard Matters – Franklin First Selectman  
Robert Brickley – Close, Jensen and Miller, P.C.  
7 Total Attendees

**Presentation:**

An introduction to the project was delivered by Mr. Kevin Blasi from CTDOT. A summary of the existing conditions and an outline of the proposed replacement scheme was provided. The following items were included:

- The purpose and need is to address the deteriorated condition of the corrugated steel pipe.
- The proposed replacement structure is a precast concrete box culvert assembled using accelerated bridge construction techniques
- Accelerated bridge construction techniques consist of the use of precast concrete structure components that are quickly assembled during a closure of the road at the structure location.
- A corresponding two-week detour will be put in place during the summer months.
- More traditional staged construction would yield greater impacts to traffic over several months.
- The proposed detour route uses State Routes 32, 207 and 610.
- Once the detour period is complete, both lanes of traffic will be restored and single lane closures (i.e. – “alternating one-way traffic”) during off-peak traffic hours will be used to perform some minor project activities.
- The State's right-of-way at the site is approximately 100 feet wide; therefore, no temporary easements for water handling or construction are anticipated.
- Aerial utilities may have to be relocated or adjusted prior to the short term closure of Route 207.
- DEEP and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits are required for this project.

- Minor drainage improvements will be made to Route 207 in the vicinity of the bridge.
- Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2016 and last approximately three months, with an estimated cost of \$475,000.

**Public Comments and Questions:**

The project was generally well received and supported by those in attendance. A town resident wondered about the minor drainage improvements that will be made on Route 207.

*CTDOT stated that a catch basin will be installed to replace the existing paved drainage runoff. This is a general stormwater management practice to prevent soil erosion and reduce runoff pollutants at the site.*

Another town resident inquired about the alignment of the brook.

*CTDOT explained the brook presently favors the northeast wingwall during low flow. The proposed structure will maintain the same channel alignment. In periods of heavy flow the brook will travel normal to the structure.*

A follow-up question was asked about the detour route in general.

*CTDOT stated that a State Route detour will be utilized. Roadway conditions on the detour route have been examined to verify turning radii are adequate and the additional loading can be accommodated. Variable message signs will be provided to notify and alert the traveling public prior to the start of the detour.*

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.